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Viewing cable 09BERLIN1116,

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
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Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09BERLIN1116	2009-09-10 15:46	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Berlin

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.aftenposten.no/spesial/wikileaksdokumenter/article3969915.ece>

VZCZXYZ0000
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHRL #1116/01 2531546
ZNY SSSS ZZH
P 101546Z SEP 09
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5153
INFO RUCNFRG/FRG COLLECTIVE
RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0182
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0205
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0726
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1625
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 1257
RUEKJCS/HQ USEUCOM LO WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRL/USDAO BERLIN GE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUCUSTR/USSTRATCOM OFFUTT AFB NE

S E C R E T BERLIN 001116

SIPDIS STATE FOR EUR/CE PETER SCHROEDER STATE FOR ISN/MDSP DICK BUENNEKE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/10/2034 TAGS: [ETTC](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [MCAP](#) [PREL](#) [TSPAM](#) [JP](#) [FR](#) [SP](#) [UK](#)
REF: A. BERLIN 1080 B. BERLIN 1049 C. BERLIN 765 D. BERLIN 601 E. BERLIN 561 F. BERLIN 181 G. 08 BERLIN 1575

Classified By: Global Affairs Unit Chief Don L. Brown for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[¶1.](#) (S//NF) SUMMARY: The German Intelligence Service (BND) expressed confidence that Germanys proposal for a High Resolution Optical System (HiROS) was provided with the notes of a meeting between Astrium Vice President for Earth Observation, Navigation and Space.

BND/ASTRIUM HIROS MEETING NOTES

[¶3.](#) (S//NF) Begin text of informal Embassy translation of German-language meeting notes taken by Astrium Vice President for Earth Observation, The visit of BND General Hasenpusch, his IMINT-liaison Officer, COL J.K. Trenker, and addition team members to Astrium produced the following text:

- 1) The BND is the official consumer for HiROS - this is politically uncontested.
- 2) The BND (Trenker) has concluded a complete market analysis (of HiROS) with cost/use accounting and submitted the results to the appropriate government.
- 3) The BND asked us not to act further politically (on HiROS). The decision can only be made by the next German government. (COMMENT: In reference to the election outcome)
- 4) The BND is certain that HiROS will be realized - independent of the election outcome.
- 5) HiROS (with three satellites) by design an open system. Additional capacity (beyond BNDs needs) shall be commercially marketed. (COMMENT: "commercially marketed")
- 6) Medium-wavelength infrared (MIR) and thermal-infrared (TIR) channels are essential (possibly not on every satellite). (COMMENT: the IR channel is critical for missile burns. END COMMENT)
- 7) In addition to MIR and TIR, a particular unique feature of real-time three dimensional (3D) image processing is being considered with a commercial provider.
- 8) The BND requires HiROS tasking priority (hidden) for their own three satellites.
- 9) Additions to the HiROS constellation (e.g. additional satellites) through international partnership, for example with the USA, would be viewed favorably.
- 10) A partnership with an US operator would fit well within the German political landscape (this was stressed multiple times).
- 11) The BND is aware of the situation that South Korea has already paid the development costs that are being used for their goals. (COMMENT: This is a concern)
- 12) The BND does not share the German Ministry of Defense (BMVg) position that the German decision to support MUSIS (and with it the concentration of space assets in Germany) is a good idea.
- 13) The Astrium subsidiary InfoTerra Ltd will market HiROSs commercial capacity. (Dr. Lutz also noted the following)

In conclusion, this confident customer (the BND) has done its homework. I see the realization of HiROS as very probable. It is important that a well coordinated action in the direction of the USA that fits well into the above be undertaken. The bigger the constellation, the better. We should also discuss this with Japan. The Japanese firm PASCO has already spoken to Astrium about HiROS. End text of informal Embassy translation.

DLR TO SIGN HIROS MOU WITH LOCKHEED ON SEPTEMBER 30

[¶4.](#) (S//NF) Walati said DLR is planning on sending high level representatives headed by Dr. Hubert Reile, DLR Program Director for Space, to DLR for further discussions.

[¶5.](#) (S//NF) The BND has come to the conclusion that having complementary optical imagery along side Germanys SAR-Lupe data is essential and is a priority.

[¶6.](#) (S//NF) Lutz, a fairly high ranking Astrium official, has accepted that HiROS is likely going to happen and communicated this sentiment in a meeting with Walati.

[¶7.](#) (SBU) For further information, please contact Shane M. Petersen, Email: ; SIPRNET: .

